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CIA-01 Bush, George

CRG, Cleveland City
Club

CIA boss here, asks lid on leaks

By JULIAN KRAWCHECK

George W. Bush, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, today said again that he is willing to testify before congressional probers on "sensitive information" but insisted anew that adequate safeguards be erected against leaks to the news media.



In remarks prepared for delivery before the City Club Forum, Bush pledged that the CIA would not employ full-time journalists for intelligence purposes but said he reserved the right to make use of data voluntarily furnished by newsmen.

He indicated that all ground rules on these and other CIA procedures are subject to variances based on special conditions involving national security.

Bush's remarks were in response to criticism of the CIA from various sources for alleged non-cooperation with congressional probers and for the reputed use of journalists based in foreign countries for espionage purposes.

He said he had appeared 28 times before congressional committees and subcommittees, and pledged his readiness to testify further "with proper regards for safeguards against leaks of sensitive information."

Bush welcomed the creation of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, headed by Sen. Daniel Inouye, of Hawaii, as a sort of clearinghouse

for giving CIA data to Congress. However, he said he would continue to cooperate with the six other Senate committees interested in the intelligence field.

"There has been no problem on the CIA's furnishing of sensitive data to the appropriate committees," Bush said. "The only problem has been with regard to leaks of information the committees agreed should be withheld for security reasons."

He conceded the difficulty of sealing the lips of all those privy to testimony before various committees but insisted that every possible safeguard be erected and policed.

At today's Forum special recognition was given to 17 members who joined the club 50 or more years ago. Five of these, H.F. Schneider, Arthur J. Reinthal, Robert L. Snajdr, Suggs Garber and A.H. Zychick, have maintained membership continuously during that time."